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WASHINGTON, D.C., DMV EMPLOYEE PLEADS GUILTY IN MANHATTAN  
FEDERAL COURT TO LICENSE SCHEME INVOLVING 900 ALIENS

JAMES B. COMEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that GWENDOLYNN DEAN pled guilty today in Manhattan federal court before United States Magistrate Judge ANDREW S. PECK to two identification document fraud counts in a pending Indictment. The Indictment charged DEAN, an employee of the Washington, D.C., Department of Motor Vehicles, with participating in a conspiracy to fraudulently obtain identification documents, specifically Washington, D.C., driver's licenses. As part of the scheme DEAN, DEAN's co-conspirators, Rafet Ozoglu, a/k/a "Mehmet Ak," and Mustafa Ozsusamlar, a/k/a "Mustafa Ozcan," a/k/a "Missta Oscane," transported aliens from the New York area to Washington, D.C., in order to fraudulently obtain the driver's licenses by bribing DEAN to process the driver's license applications.

According to the Indictment, throughout the two-and-a-

half year course of the conspiracy, Ozoglu and Ozsusamlar fraudulently obtained more than 900 Washington, D.C., driver's licenses by bribing DEAN. Many of those obtaining the Washington, D.C., driver's licenses were illegal aliens and approximately 75 of the individuals later exchanged their fraudulently obtained Washington, D.C., driver's licenses for New York driver's licenses.

According to the Indictment, and Criminal Complaints previously filed in the case, DEAN was a window clerk with the Washington, D.C., Department of Motor Vehicles ("DC DMV"). From January 2000 through June 2002, Ozoglu and Ozsusamlar allegedly solicited co-conspirators who wished to fraudulently obtain driver's licenses (the "Clients") and transported those Clients from the New York area to Washington, D.C. ("DC"), usually driving the Clients in passenger vans. Most of the Clients were of Middle Eastern, South Asian or Russian descent and many were illegal aliens.

According to the Indictment, once in Washington, Ozoglu, Ozsusamlar, and/or their co-conspirators, filled out DC DMV driver's license applications for the Clients, using fictitious DC addresses and then accompanied the Clients to a DC DMV office and to the window of DEAN. At the window, DEAN processed the Clients' applications, despite the absence of proof of name and date of birth, Social Security number, and residence, in exchange for cash payments from Ozoglu, Ozsusamlar, and/or

their co-conspirators. After each Client obtained a valid DC driver's license, Ozoglu, Ozsusamlar, and/or their co-conspirators allegedly drove drive the Clients back to the New York area, it was charged.

According to the Indictment, the Clients each paid Ozoglu, Ozsusamlar, and/or their co-conspirators approximately \$1,500 for this service. Throughout the course of the purported conspiracy, Ozoglu, Ozsusamlar and/or their co-conspirators, fraudulently obtained more than 900 DC driver's licenses in the manner described above, and approximately 75 of the Clients exchanged their fraudulently obtained DC driver's licenses for New York driver's licenses under New York's reciprocity program, which issues New York driver's licenses to New York residents with driver's licenses from certain other states, including DC.

DEAN, 48, is a resident of the District of Columbia. She faces a maximum sentence of 15 years in jail and a \$250,000 fine or twice the gross gain or loss resulting from the crime on each count of conspiracy to commit identification document fraud and identification document fraud. DEAN is scheduled to be sentenced before United States District Judge KIMBA M. WOOD, who on June 13, 2003.

Mr. COMEY praised the efforts of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in investigating this case.

Mr. COMEY said the investigation is continuing.

The trial of Ozoglu and Ozsusamlar is scheduled to begin on April 7, 2003, before Judge WOOD.

Ozoglu, 41, was a resident of Brooklyn, New York, until his arrest in June 2002, on these charges. Ozsusamlar, 58, was a resident of Manhattan until his arrest in December 2001 on other federal charges. If convicted, Ozoglu and Ozsusamlar each face maximum sentences of 5 years in jail for conspiracy to bribe a public official; 15 years for bribery of a public official; 15 years for conspiracy to commit identification document fraud; 15 years for identification document fraud; 10 years for conspiracy to transport illegal aliens; and 5 years for transportation of illegal aliens. In addition each count carries a maximum fine of \$250,000 or twice the gross gain or loss resulting from the crime.

Assistant United States Attorney ALEXANDER H. SOUTHWELL is in charge of the prosecution.

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